State Council of
Higher Education for Virginia

Feasibility Study:
Analysis of Developing a Higher Education Research
Network in Virginia
Joint Commission on Technology and Science
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Emerging Issues

Institutions…..

Federal research funding is shrinking

Emerging Issues

Economic development….

Difficult to assess and promote Virginia's research assets (faculty and equipment)

Emerging Issues

Business community....

Struggle to find the "front door" to institutions

Emerging Issues

Institutions, business, legislators….

Interest in sharing or leasing excess capacity of equipment across institutions and with business

Project Concept

- MOU with VEDP, CIT, public college/university presidents, and SCHEV
- University-based economic developers (UBED) identified 3 projects
  - Feasibility study of research network
  - Role of colleges/universities in regional economic development
  - Marketing Virginia's higher education institutions through economic development

What is a Research Network?

Common characteristics

- Web-presence (portal) of research expertise and equipment

- State and institution level points of contact

- Network of institutions that convene to assess value and share practices

- Economic development <u>and</u> collaboration tool

MCRN
MICHIGAN CORPORATE RELATIONS NETWORK

Find University Experts/Resources for R&D at Your Business

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What is the MCRN?

The Michigan Corporate Relations Network (MCRN) is a statewide university network designed to create partnerships that will connect Michigan's corporations to critical university assets to help promote innovative research and grow Michigan's economy.

Six major public universities in Michigan make up the network. They are:

- Michigan State University (MSU)
- Michigan Technological University (MTU)
- Wayne State University (WSU)
- Western Michigan University (WMU)
- University of Michigan-Ann Arbor (U-M)
- University of Michigan-Dearborn (UM-Dearborn)

News

The Michigan Corporate Relations Network (MCRN) helps Michigan start-up accelerate quest for a cure

Innovative algae research keeps students in state

Keeping Our Homegrown Grads at Home

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Study Objectives

- What are the benefits of a network?
- What are the expected costs?
- What are the practices in other states?
- What gaps exist in state and institution's infrastructure (technology, staffing, communications) to support a network?
- What are the implementation options?

Approach

Interviews with :

- Other states
- Major research institutions
- State stakeholders

Timeline (estimated)

- June-August: Conduct interviews
- September 1: Draft report
- September 1-15: Institution and stakeholder feedback and review
- September 30: Final report